

GRANT RECIPIENT
IDNR DIVISION OF STATE
PARKS AND RESERVOIRS

**YEAR** 2008

**COUNTY**PORTER

CATEGORY
LOW COST CONSTRUCTION

GRANT AWARD \$15,000

Local Share \$15,000



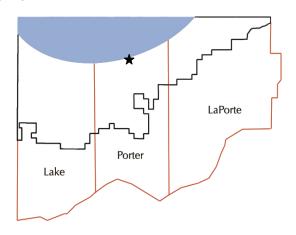
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## **Noel's Prairie South Biodiversity Restoration**

This project restored 15 acres of high quality remnant savanna in the western portion of Indiana Dunes State Park, located near trail 3 and commonly known as Noel's Prairie. Trees in the savanna were widely spaced when it was first described in 1987, but the canopy has effectively closed since that time due to fire suppression and the proliferation of sassafras trees. In 2007, the initial restoration of 7 acres of the savanna produced amazing results with an additional 38 species new to the original plant list. This project removed the invading sassafras and young oaks and restored the savanna to its early succession open canopy condition. The goal was to remove 100% of Sassafras cover and reduce the total canopy of oaks to less than 50%.



**RESULT:** Restored 15 acres of high quality remnant savanna by removing 100% of sassafras cover and reducing the oak population to less than 50%.